

**BRANCH MEDICAL CLINIC (CODE 9005)**  
**NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY**  
**4555 Overlook Avenue, S. W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20375**

4 Mar 02

From: Dr. Dimayuga, Occupational Health Physician  
To: Mr. Michael Smith, NAVSEA Environmental, Safety, Occupational Health  
And Fire Safety Specialist

Subj: INDOOR AIR QUALITY INVESTIGATION IN BUILDING 197, WASHINGTON  
NAVY YARD

Ref: (a) Advanced Environmental Services, Inc. Report of Sept 2001  
(b) Advanced Environmental Services, Inc. Report of 19 Feb 2002

1. The recent indoor quality test performed by Advanced Environmental Services, Inc. (AESI) on 19 February 2002; post molds abatement showed that there were molds still present inside and outside of all the containment area tested on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of building 197. Of particular concern was the presence of STACHYBOTRYS molds which may contain mycotoxin, among other molds isolated.

2. The recently concluded site visit on 26 February 2002 conducted by the Occupational Health Nurse, Industrial Hygienist and myself escorted by you and Dr. Anderson from AESI showed that all areas of containment, inside and outside, were free of grossly visible molds. However, dust was visibly present on carpet flooring in most areas of containment. Also, there were missing ceiling tiles inside the containment areas. There were no fresh water marks on ceiling tiles and carpet flooring. The containment areas were relatively sealed off with some loose tape breaking the seal of the area.

3. It is important to remember that toxic and non-toxic molds deserve the same attention in terms of hazard assessment and abatement.

4. Based on above observations, the following recommendations are submitted for your guidance:

- a. Keep humidity at 50%.
- b. Replace water soiled carpet flooring and loose tiles if any.
- c. Continue mold abatement as per established protocol.
- d. Relocate work stations of employees with the following conditions:

- 1) Immune suppressed
- 2) Chronic respiratory disease
- 3) Allergy history (specific and non-specific)
- 4) Recently recovering individual from any medical condition

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5) Any serious medical conditions

e. Employees should be encouraged to see their private physician or the Occupational health Clinic physician for any health issue concern or those with respiratory or skin complaints.

5. Thank you for your concern and cooperation. Please contact me at (202) 767-7300 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

F. M. DIMAYUGA, M. D.

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